GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2368
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2015
Production of Pepper
Mullappally Shri Ramachandran

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) the details of pepper production in the country during the last three years and the current year, State/UT and year-wise;
b) whether there is a decline in the production of pepper during the said period;
c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase the production of pepper?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a): The State wise estimated (Trade estimate) production of pepper in India during the last three years and current year is given below:
(Production in MT)

Major States	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (P)
KARNATAKA	26000	16000	33000	20000
KERALA	25000	18000	20000	20000
TAMIL NADU	7000	1000	7000	8000
Total (including others)	65000	37000	65000	53000

(P) Projected

(b): The production of pepper in India during the period from 2012-13 to 2015-16 shows a fluctuating trend. Pepper production has declined from 65,000 MT to 37,000 MT in 2013-14. However, the production has increased to 65,000 MT in 2014-15. Based on the present prevailing climatic conditions, the projected estimate of pepper production for the year 2015-16 is 53,000 MT, showing a decrease of 18.5% as compared to last year.

(c): The major reason for the fluctuation in production of Pepper is the unfavourable climatic conditions prevailing in the growing tracts during the flowering/berry setting period. The production of pepper is mainly dependent on the rainfall pattern.

(d): Several programmes for development and production of spices including pepper such as area expansion, Integrated Pest Management (IPM)/Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), organic farming, creation of water resources, micro irrigation, post-harvest management, development of market yards, Human Resource Development etc. are implemented through State Horticulture Mission under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) of Government of India. Government implements through the Spices Board various export development, post-harvest and quality improvement programmes for spices including pepper. Spices Board has also setup six quality evaluation labs for evaluating the quality of the spices to be exported. The National Horticulture Mission (NHM) implemented by the Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development (DASD) includes programmes on production of quality planting materials of black pepper, technology dissemination through frontline demonstration of organic cultivation and conduct of seminars/workshops through various State Agricultural University centers and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) institutes in pepper growing states in the country.
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